



The Check-Up

A Quarterly Publication

www.azmd.gov

Vol. 3, Fall 2017

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The Arizona Medical Board is Moving

Effective:
January 8, 2018

The new address is:
Arizona Medical Board
1740 W. Adams
Phoenix, AZ 85007
phone numbers and
e-mail addresses remain the same

Do You Certify Vital Statistic Documents ?

The Arizona Department of Health Services' Bureau of Vital Records is in the process of implementing a new electronic death registry system called the Database Application for Vital Events (DAVE).

All medical certifiers will be required to provide medical certification electronically. For more information, please log onto the DAVE website at <https://sites.google.com/site/davetrainingbvr/home> or contact the Bureau of Vital Records at (602) 364-2230.



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**Happy 100th
Birthday
Dr. Kassell**

**Thank-you for Your
Dedicated Service to
Arizona's Citizens**

By Veronika Burkel, OMC Coordinator

The AMB would like to take this opportunity to honor Dr. Martin Kassell.

Dr. Kassell is a Psychiatrist, who has been highly involved as a reviewer for AMB investigative cases, assisting with its mission to protect the citizens of Arizona. Numerous articles have been published about his life and accomplishments.

Dr. Kassell celebrates his 100th birthday early in 2018 and we are delighted and thankful for his service to Arizona's citizens. The AMB expresses its gratitude and thanks to Dr. Kassell for his time and input on cases which he always meets with great enthusiasm.

Dear Dr. Kassell:

Your caring efforts, assistance and willpower supporting the AMB on its mission are appreciated. You are an example to all of us at the AMB. We wish you all the best on this remarkable milestone.

May your birthday be filled with joy and laughter among family and friends. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Martin Kassell.





In Memoriam: Daniel M. Caruso, MD, FACS

On Friday, August 25, 2017, Dr. Daniel Caruso lost a determined, fourteen-month battle with cancer. He was 53. Dan was born in Dearborn, Michigan to the late Canava Caruso and Grace (Natoli) Caruso. Dan Graduated Ionia High School and Kalamazoo College, playing football at both. After a high school teacher challenged him to use his scholastic talents in medicine, Dan became driven to become a physician, specifically a surgeon.

He completed medical school at Wayne State University and matched with Maricopa Medical Center in Phoenix to begin a surgical residency in 1992. Following residency, Dan was accepted into a trauma/critical care fellowship at UC Davis. He then returned to Maricopa Medical Center to begin his career as an attending surgeon in 1998 with District Medical Group (formerly MedPro). He practiced at Maricopa Medical Center until his death.

As Director of the Arizona Burn Center from 1998-2012, Dan - with his partners and staff- built a nationally recognized Burn Center in Phoenix. It grew to be the second largest burn center by volume in the nation and continues to be a leader in the national burn community.

In 2006 Dan became DMG Chairman of the Department of Surgery, and over the past decade continued to flourish as a leader. His department has a strong and solid foundation, built by Dan's passion, loyalty and drive. His devoted team in un-paralleled in today's workplace.

Dan became a patient himself multiple times over the last fifteen years, and he used his experiences to develop and teach compassion with staff and residents. He challenged them to look at the medical care they provide through the eyes of the patient. He was a humble man yet fearless, loyal and dedicated.

Along with his mother Grace, Dan is survived by his wife Diane, to whom he was devoted; son Daniel Caruso II; step-daughters Lindy (Jeremy) Smith and Anna (Dan) Anderson; step-sons Zachary (Tess) Kreisheimer and Joey Kreisheimer, brother Michael Caruso III and many loving in-laws, nieces and nephews. He was Nonno to his much-loved grandson Deegan. He also was "dad" to his three beautiful pups - Vito, Vienna and Vinnie.

Dan's legacy will live on through his family, friends, staff and patients. He will be missed more than can be described. In lieu of flowers, donations are encouraged to City of Hope Cancer Research Center, Singh/Williams Research via www.bobkgolf.com or the Arizona Burn Foundation, <http://azburn.org/donation-page/>

A Celebration of Life Service was held on September 5th at the Cornerstone -Chandler Campus, Chandler, AZ.
(Page borrowed from Dr. Caruso's obituary - subject to edits)

Postscript: Dan served as a Medical Consultant for the AMB for years. His calm demeanor and medical expertise were appreciated by the Agency and staff. The AMB Board Members and staff join the Caruso family mourning the loss of Dr. Daniel Caruso.

Your Expertise Is *Still* Needed:

There continues to be an on-going need for physicians to review investigation cases for the AMB as outside medical consultants ("OMCs").

OMCs are professionals who receive a stipend and may be eligible for continuing medical education credit(s). OMCs evaluate investigatory cases for standard of care and provide written comments for AMB staff to review in the course of an investigation.

We need Arizona licensed physicians in **ALL** specialties, but we are actively seeking the following:

Addiction Medicine	Interventional Cardiology	Medical Oncology	Gynecological Oncology
Pain Management	Cardiothoracic Surgery	Hematology/Oncology	Interventional Radiology
Pain Medicine	Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology	Surgical Oncology	Neurology
Pharmacology and Toxicology	Anatomic/Clinical (Surgical) Pathology	Correctional Health	Bariatric Surgery

Please contact us at omc@azmd.gov for details, or call (480) 551-2700.

Dear Physician, Did You Know...

About retaining patient records...

Health care providers shall retain the original or copies of a patient's medical records as follows:

1. If the patient is an adult, for at least six years after the last date the adult patient received medical or health care services from that provider.
2. If the patient is a child, either for at least three years after the child's eighteenth birthday or for at least six years after the last date the child received medical or health care services from that provider, whichever date occurs later. A.R.S. § 12-2297 (A)

All felony charges and certain misdemeanor charges must be reported to the AMB (in writing) within 10 working days after the charge is filed.

A.R.S. §32-3208(A)- A health professional who has been charged with a misdemeanor involving conduct that may affect patient safety or a felony after receiving or renewing a license or certificate must notify the health professional's regulatory board in writing within ten working days after the charge is filed.

*Includes DUI, assault, solicitation, disorderly conduct, and theft

**A full list of reportable misdemeanors and moral turpitude offenses are available on the AMB website under the *Regulation* tab.

From the Desk of Chief Medical Officer, William Wolf, M.D.

STAYING OUT OF TROUBLE

(h)

Officially, there are 47 ways for an MD to be unprofessional in Arizona (be glad you're not a DO—they have 49!) They are listed in Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S.) § 32-1401 (27) on the AMB's website, and they go from (a) all the way to (uu). This is about (h). The (h) section says that it's unprofessional conduct to prescribe controlled substances to your immediate family. Who's in your immediate family? The answer is your spouse, your natural or adopted children, your spouse's natural or adopted children, your parents, your spouse's parents, your brothers and sisters, and your spouse's brothers and sisters. The legislature has specifically singled out those family members.

On the other hand, MD's have come to the attention of the AMB who have prescribed controlled substances to a fiancé, significant other, or more distant relative. Those docs have often attempted to argue that they have not gone afoul of statute since they haven't technically violated (h). It is true that they won't be found by the AMB to have violated (h). However, unless they do everything else right (prescribe for proper indications, maintain adequate records, etc.) they might well be found to have violated another part of statute, often under section (e) or (q) or both.

Best advice—if your relative or significant other needs a controlled substance, have another competent qualified practitioner prescribe it rather than doing it yourself.

William Wolf, MD
Chief Medical Consultant



Kristina Fredericksen, Deputy Director and Editor of the *Check-Up* is this issue's *In the Spotlight* profile.

Kristina joined the AMB on September 15, 2015. Prior to joining the AMB, she had seventeen years experience working in state service. Eleven of those were spent at the Attorney General's Office in the Office of the Solicitor General and the Natural

Resources Section as a Project Specialist Paralegal. Her state service started at the Department of Environmental Quality, as a paralegal in the Waste Programs Division. Kristina holds both a Master of Public Administration degree and a Bachelor's in Justice Studies from Arizona State University.

In her spare time, Kristina enjoys the great outdoors. She rides her bike and hikes with her husband Rick and their two dogs, Anya and Murray whenever possible.